THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir. Trail run of the fastest train was conducted at 150 kilometer/hour in December 2002 on the Konkan Railway.

(b)The locomotive used was imported from General Motors, United States of America. Locos with similar capabilities are however currently under manufacture in Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi, in India.

(c) Yes, Sir. It was successful.

(d) The matter is under examination

(e)The details will be worked out after a final decision in this regard is taken.

Dues of Railways on SEBs

450. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total dues, to Railways by various State Electricity Boards as on January, 2003; and

(b) the steps taken to collect such dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) A statement is attached indicating the position as on 31.12.2002 since details for January, 2003 will be available only in the next months *i.e.* after closure of January, 2003 Accounts (See below).

(b) The steps taken to collect such dues from State Electricity Boards/Power Houses include:

(1) The Implementation of various schemes of 'Pre-payment of Freight[1] for carriage of coal to Power Houses.

(2) State Electricity Boards/Power Houses, which fail to observe the conditions of 'Pre-payment of Freight' as also payment of current freight are closely monitored by the Railways and regular meetings are held with officials including Chairmen of State Electricity Boards/Power Houses.

(3) Pursuant to Government's decision on 07.02.1997 that the outstanding dues from State-Electricity Boards/Power Houses as on 31.12.1996 whould be adjusted from the Central Plan Assistance of the State Government subject to certain limits, an amount of Rs. 159.23 crores has been received so far.

(4) Adjustment of outstanding dues against traction bills of some of the States Electricity Boards is also being carried out.

(5) The Minister of Railways has written to Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Maharasthra Gujarat, Rajasthan, Delhi, Punjab, Haryana and West Bengal urging early steps for clearance of dues.

(6) Gradual clearance of outstanding dues is expected as per formula evolved by the 'Expert Group for Settlement of SEB dues', which has been accepted by the Government of India and the various State Governments.

Statement

The position of total dues to Railways by various SEBs as on 31.12.2002 is as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Name of State Electricity Board/Power House	Outstanding dues as on 31.12.2002
1 2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board	1.57
2. Assam State Electricity Board	0.03
3. Bihar State Electricity Board	1.08
4. DelhiVidyut Board	173.84
5. Gujarat State Electricity Board	10.74
6. Haryana State Electricity Board	21.14
7. Jharkhand State Electricity Board	1.0
8. Karnataka State Electricity Board	1.78

1	2	3
9.	Maharashtra State Electricity Board	10.75
10.	Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board	16.67
11.	Punjab State Electricity Board	693.13
12.	Rajasthan State Electricity Board	133.67
13.	Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board	1.97
14.	Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board	74.24
15.	West Bengal State Electricity Board	28.45
16.	BadarpurThermal Power Station	946.42
17.	National Thermal Power Corporation	68.71
18.	DamodarValley Corporation	11.35
19.	Private Power House, Sabarmati	0.49
	TOTAL:	2197.03

Speed limit for trains passing through Bihar

451. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a speed limit of 70 kilometer per hour has been imposed for trains passing through the State of Bihar during night;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such restrictions are in place in any other part of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the decision on speed restriction is based on security consideration and if so whether any input from the Home Ministry has been received or consultation with the State Government has been made and if so, the details thereof?